

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (currently amended): A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which is transported in a first direction, comprising:

a carriage, reciprocately moved in a second direction which is perpendicular to the first direction;

a print head, mounted on the carriage, the print head having a head face;

a first frame, placed on a first side of the print head; and

a first guide plate, extending in the second direction, which includes:

a first portion, provided as a part of the first frame so as to extend in a third direction which is orthogonal to both of the first direction and the direction;

a second portion, continued from the first portion so as to extend in the first direction, the second portion supporting the carriage so as to define a distance between the head face and the recording medium; and

a third portion, continued from the second portion so as to extend in a fourth direction opposite to the third direction;

wherein the carriage has a pair of supporting portions between which the second portion is interposed.

2. (original): The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the carriage is provided with a first guide member which is slid on a first face of the second portion of the first guide plate when the carriage moves in the second direction.

3. (previously presented): The printer as set forth in claim 2, wherein the first guide member is slid on a line situated substantially at a center of the second portion of the first guide plate in the first direction.

4. (original): The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein either one of the first portion and the third portion of the first guide plate defines a position of the carriage in the first direction.

5. (original): The printer as set forth in claim 4, wherein the carriage is provided with a second guide member which grips either one of the first portion and the third portion of the first guide plate, so that the second guide member is slid thereon when the carriage moves in the second direction.

6. (original): The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein:

the carriage is provided with a third guide member which is slid on a second face of the second portion of the first guide plate when the carriage moves in the second direction; and the second face is an opposite face of the first face.

7. (currently amended): The printer as set forth in claim 1, further comprising:

a second frame, placed ~~in~~on a second side of the print head which is opposite to ~~side of~~
the first side;

a second guide plate, extending in the second direction, which includes:

a fourth portion, provided as a part of the second frame so as to extend in the third
direction;

a fifth portion, continued from the fourth portion so as to extend in the first
direction, the fifth portion supporting the carriage so as to define the distance between the head
face and the recording medium; and

a sixth portion, continued from the fifth portion so as to extend in the fourth
direction.

8. (original): The printer as set forth in claim 7, wherein the carriage is provided with a fourth
guide member which is slid on the fifth portion of the second guide plate when the carriage
moves in the second direction.

9. (original): A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which is
transported in a first direction, comprising:

a carriage, on which a print head is mounted, reciprocately moved in a second direction
which is perpendicular to the first direction;

a recording region, in which the print head performs printing;

a home position, provided in one of both sides of the recording region in the second direction, at which the carriage is placed when the print head does not perform printing;

a first frame, including:

a carriage guide, extending in the second direction from the recording region to the home position such that the carriage moves therealong; and

supporting legs, extending downwards from both side end portions of the carriage guide; and

a second frame, including:

first positioning members, which define positions of the supporting legs in the first direction;

second positioning members, which define positions of the supporting legs in the second direction;

third positioning members, which define positions of the supporting legs in a third direction which is orthogonal to both of the first direction and the second direction; and

a supporting base, which supports at least a bottom portion of one supporting leg situated in the home position.

10. (currently amended): A printer, in which printing is performed on a recording medium which is transported in a first direction, comprising:

a first flat guide plate, extending in a second direction which is perpendicular to the first direction;

a looped belt member;

a drive motor, which circulates the looped belt member in the second direction;

a drive motor, which circulates the looped belt member in the second direction;

a head assembly, including:

a print head;

a belt holder, at which a part of the looped belt is fixed; and

a first guided portion, provided in a first side of the print head, and slid

on the first flat guide plate in accordance with the circulation of the looped belt member.

11. (previously presented): The printer as set forth in claim 10, further comprising a second guide plate placed on a second side of the print head, which is ~~an~~ opposite to the first side, so as to extend in the second direction,

wherein the head assembly includes a second guided portion slid on the second guide plate in accordance with the circulation of the looped belt member.

12. (previously presented): The printer as set forth in claim 10, wherein:

the first guided portion is slidably held on the first guide plate while defining a position of the print head in the first direction; and

the head assembly includes a third guided portion slidably held on the first guide plate while defining a position of the print head in a third direction which is orthogonal to both of the first direction and the second direction.

13. (new): The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein the supporting portions of the carriage grips the second portion of the first guide plate.

14. (new): The printer as set forth in claim 1, wherein one of the supporting portions slides on a first face of the second portion; and wherein another of the supporting portions slides on a second face of the second portion, the second face being opposite to the first face.